

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
TRANSMITTAL OF COPY OF INTERNATIONAL
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY)

(PCT Rule 44bis.1(c))

To:

FENSTER, Paul
FENSTER & COMPANY, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
LTD.
P. O. BOX 10256
49002 PETACH TIKVA
ISRAËL

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20 MAY 2007
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G.E. EHRLICH (ISRAEL)

Date of mailing (<i>day/month/year</i>) 26 April 2007 (26.04.2007)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 414/04401 34597		
International application No. PCT/IL2005/000139	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 04 February 2005 (04.02.2005)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 05 February 2004 (05.02.2004)
Applicant MOTORIKA INC. et al		

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

<p>The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70</p>	<p>Authorized officer Simin Baharlou</p> <p>e-mail: pt09.pct@wipo.int</p>
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 414/04401	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/IL2005/000139	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 04 February 2005 (04.02.2005)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 05 February 2004 (05.02.2004)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant MOTORIKA INC.			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 9 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Date of issuance of this report 17 April 2007 (17.04.2007)
	Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center;">Simin Baharlou</p> e-mail: pt09.pct@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)**

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/IL2005/000139

International filing date (day/month/year)
04.02.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
05.02.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
A61H1/02, A63B23/12, A63B23/16, G09B11/00, G09B9/00

Applicant
REABILITY INC.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized Officer

Fischer, E

Telephone No. +49 89 2399-7290



Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - a sequence listing
 - table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - in written format
 - in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - contained in the international application as filed.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- the entire international application,
- claims Nos. 30-36

because:

- the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
- the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
- the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
- no international search report has been established for the whole application or for said claims Nos. 30-36
- the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions in that:
 - the written form has not been furnished
 - does not comply with the standard
 - the computer readable form has not been furnished
 - does not comply with the standard
- the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.
- See separate sheet for further details

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IL2005/000139

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-29
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-29
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-29
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.10)

and / or

2. Non-written disclosures (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.9)

see form 210

Re Item III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

Claims 30-36 relate to subject-matter considered by this Authority to be covered by the provisions of Rule 67.1(iv) PCT, namely to methods for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy. Consequently, no opinion will be formulated with respect to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability of the subject-matter of these claims (Article 34(4)(a)(i), Rule 43bis.1(b) PCT).

In particular, independent claims 30, 33 include medical treatment steps like using an actuator to assist movement of an arm or of fingers of a person, the purpose and inevitable effect being therapeutic, namely rehabilitation of lost limb control.

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

I. Documents

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US-A-5 397 865;
- D2: US-A-2002/064438;
- D3: US-A-6 057 828;
- D4: US-A-6 061 004;
- D5: US-A-3 919 691;
- D6: JP-A-2002 127058;
- D7: JP-A-11 253504;
- D8: WO-A-2004/050172.

II. Requirements of Article 6 PCT - Clarity

1. The formulation "fine motion mechanism ... adapted to apply sufficient force to move the object" used in claim 1 is not clear, since the claim does not define any of those parameters necessary to determine the force. For example: What kind of object is used, how is the object held, how much force does the user apply, etc. ?

2. The claims as a whole are not clear, since they attempt to define the invention in terms of a result to be achieved, rather than defining the structural technical features that are necessary to perform the stated functions (PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines 5.35): See e.g. claims 5-7, 18, 23.
3. According to independent claim 23 the apparatus comprises "a stylus extending upwards from the surface, and a motion mechanism [being] located under the surface". Thus, all embodiments according to Figs. 2, 3, 5 fall outside the subject-matter covered by this claim (PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines 5.29).

III. Requirements of Article 33(2), (3) PCT - Novelty / Inventive step

1. Document D1 discloses (see especially Figs. 1a, 1c, 1d) (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

An apparatus for rehabilitation (the device of D1 is suitable for this intended use; see e.g. column 2, lines 66, 67), comprising:

an object (120) adapted to be hand-held by a person and manipulated using the fingers to perform a task; and
a fine motion mechanism (170, 184) coupled to said object and adapted to apply sufficient force to move the object (column 12, lines 24-28).

Since the subject-matter of independent **claim 1** does not differ therefrom, it is not novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

2. **Claim 1** is formulated extremely broadly, see especially:
 -) "apparatus for rehabilitation": This formulation is to be construed as meaning merely that the apparatus is suitable for this use (see also PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines item 5.23). In the context of the present application, any device capable of applying a force to a limb sufficient to assist movement of the limb can be regarded as suitable for such an intended use.
 -) "fine motion mechanism": This relative term has no well-recognised meaning and thus cannot be used to delimit the claim from the prior art.

Claim 8, 9, 27, 28: See e.g. D1, column 3, lines 12-15; D6, paragraph [0017]; D7, paragraph [0013].

Claims 10-12, 16, 24, 25: See e.g. D1, Fig. 1c, 1d, column 12, lines 24-28; D3, Fig. 7, column 4, line 8; D6, paragraphs [0011], [0012], [0024]; D7, paragraphs [0007], [0019], [0021], [0022].

Claim 13: See D1, column 3, lines 46-51; D4, column 5, lines 17-19.

Claims 17-20: See D2, paragraph [0169]; D3, Fig. 7; D4, Fig. 2; D6, Fig. 1; D7, Figs. 1, 2.

Claims 21, 22: See esp. D1, Fig. 1a; D6, display (24).

Re Item VI

Certain documents cited

Certain published documents

Application No Patent No	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (<i>valid claim</i>) (day/month/year)
WO-A-2004/050172	17.06.2004	03.12.2003	04.12.2002; 02.12.2003